

Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council
Public Safety Committee Special Meeting Minutes
28 October 2020 7:00 pm

Location:
Zoom

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Time: 7:06pm

Committee Member	Present	Not Present
Caroline Aguirre		X
Emily Aldrich	X	
Mary Allison	X	
Boo Caban		X
Brendan Cronshaw	X	
Steve Crouch	X	
Gemma Marquez	X	
Rick Marquez	X	
MaryLeigh Roohan	X	
Total:	7	2

2. Discussion and motion to approve agenda

Gemma Marquez moves to approve the agenda. Mary Allison 2nd

	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Caroline Aguirre						X
Emily Aldrich	X					
Mary Allison	X					

Boo Caban						X
Brendan Cronshaw	X					
Steve Crouch	X					
Gemma Marquez	X					
Rick Marquez	X					
MaryLeigh Roohan	X					
Total:	7					

3. General Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items—Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s jurisdiction (Limited to 5 min, max 1 min per speaker)

Public Comment:

Stakeholder Rosa Rivas expressed concerns raised by stakeholders of the Northeast Police Station’s front desk phone calls go unanswered.

SLO Officer Mark Allen stated best to call 911 for emergency calls or non-emergency calls 877-275-5273. Due to COVID-19 only one LAPD officer is working the front desk.

4. Report: Northeast Division’s Neighborhood Prosecutor Gabrielle Taylor (5 min)

Courts open and fully operational

Summons for jury duty are being mailed to potential jurors

Election Security Hotline (800)-345-8683 – Residents should call to express safety and security concerns regarding the upcoming election. City Attorney’s office in collaboration with LAPD is working to ensure that laws protecting voters and their ability to vote without interference or intimidation are enforced.

5. Discuss firework complaints in Highland Park and solutions with Gabrielle Taylor (10 min)

Gabrielle Taylor spoke on previous efforts for fireworks reduction which included outreach to schools to educate children, so that they can educate their parents. In addition to flyers to specific blocks and warning letters. Due to COVID-19 outreach has been impacted. SLO Officer Allen mentioned the importance of providing specific locations for enforcement by LAPD.

Emily Aldrich, Steve Crouch, Gemma Marquez, Rick Marquez and Mary Leigh Roohan commented and made suggestions. The following was stated: hosting a town hall event, outreach, advocacy and comic book to educate the public. Firework buyback program and theatrical skits for kids.

Public Comment: Joey shared map identifying locations where fireworks are set off regularly. Joey agreed to collaborate with MaryLeigh Roohan and SLO Officers Mark Allen and Lloyd Chang.

6. Discuss uptick in crime in Highland Park and solutions with Gabrielle Taylor. Specifically, an increase in shootings has been mentioned at board meetings over the past two months. (10 min)

SLO Officer Mark Allen reported overall decline in gang violence. Yet, there were five recent gang shootings (HLP & Dogtown), 12 gang-related arrests, and 5 guns confiscated and taken off the street. Property theft accounts for 70% of crime - car theft, car break-ins and residential burglaries. Stakeholders are encouraged to take preventive measures to protect their property. (Lock it, Hide it, and Keep it). SLO Officer Allen encouraged committee to contact them regarding concerns. Suggested: Educating the youth to slow process of gang affiliation and involvement. Gabrielle Taylor offered, if you know a specific location where crime takes place, the city can abate properties where landlords are allowing crimes to happen - specific locations are helpful.

Mary Allison inquired if a newsletter with crime state, crime maps could be provided. Emily Aldrich appreciated guests: Allen, Chang, and Taylor. Gemma Marquez asked SLO Officers if a crime stat report can be provided at the HHPNC meetings. If unable to attend NC, please send the information to the HHPNC President; so that, update can be announced by the President. Rick Marquez requested if Gabrielle Taylor can provide some type of flow chart/visual hand-out for prosecution in general; especially in reference fireworks.

ACTION ITEMS (Abstentions are not recorded as either in favor or opposition)

7. Discuss and motion to choose a regular monthly meeting time for Public Safety (5 min)

Public Comment: none.

Mary Allison moves motion to hold regular Public Safety meetings the 2 nd Wednesday of the month. Emily Aldrich 2nd the motion. Next meeting November 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Caroline Aguirre						X
Emily Aldrich	X					
Mary Allison	X					
Boo Caban						X
Brendan Cronshaw	X					
Steve Crouch	X					
Gemma Marquez	X					
Rick Marquez	X					
MaryLeigh Roohan	X					
Total:	7					

8. Discuss and motion to assign meeting roles of Minute-taker, Moderator, and Screen Share with Timer, and decide how or if those responsibilities rotate

Public Comment: Clara Solis supportive of committee members

Gemma Marquez moves that Mary Allison serves as Moderator, Gemma Marquez as Minute-taker, Richard Marquez Screen Share with Timer. Mary Allison 2nd the motion.

	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Caroline Aguirre						X
Emily Aldrich	X					

Mary Allison	x					
Boo Caban						x
Brendan Cronshaw	x					
Steve Crouch	x					
Gemma Marquez	x					
Rick Marquez	x					
MaryLeigh Roohan	x					
Total:	7					

9. New Business

Emily Aldrich will contact CD 1 Bill Cody to discuss sidewalk safety concerns of outdoor “Al Fresco.”

Mary Allison would like discussion and motion of Gabrielle Taylor’s idea of Buy-Back fireworks on the next Public Safety agenda.

Steve Crouch would like Gemma Marquez to contact Caroline Aguirre to help facilitate her participation at Public Safety meetings.

Rick Marquez would like flexibility on discussion among Public Safety committee members.

Important to report graffiti - any time you have cross outs, you have shootings

Community outreach around property crimes - newsletter or social media

Public Comment: Sylva Blackstone complimented food truck on York Blvd.

Joey supportive of The York; yet, raised concerns of challenges navigating outside the establishment. Often people have to step off the sidewalk to get around the establishment’s outdoor “Al Fresco” set-up.

10. Adjournment

Public Comment: None

Mary Allison moves to adjourn the Public Safety meeting. Rick Marquez 2nd

	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Caroline Aguirre						x
Emily Aldrich	x					
Mary Allison	x					
Boo Caban						x
Brendan Cronshaw	x					
Steve Crouch	x					
Gemma Marquez	x					
Rick Marquez	x					
MaryLeigh Roohan	x					
Total:	7					